STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

The following claim listing replaces all previous listings of the claims.

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1. (currently amended) A divalent antibody fragment comprising two antibody heavy chains and at least one polymer molecule effective for increasing the circulating half-life of said fragment in covalent linkage, each heavy chain being covalently linked to the other by at least one non-disulphide interchain bridge linking the sulphur atom of a cysteine residue in one chain to the sulphur atom of a cysteine residue in the other chain, said cysteine residues being located outside of the variable region domain of each chain, characterised in that at least one non-disulphide interchain bridge contains a covalently linked polymer molecule.

2. (currently amended) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 in which each heavy chain is covalently linked to the other by a single non-disulphide bridge, said bridge containing a covalently linked polymer ~~moelcule~~ molecule effective for increasing the circulating half-life of said fragment.

3. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 wherein each heavy chain is paired with a light chain.

4. (currently amended) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 wherein each heavy chain is a V_H-CH1 chain terminally substituted by a hinge region domain.

5. (original) An antibody fragment according to Claim 4 wherein each non-disulphide bridge present links the sulphur atom of a cysteine residue located in the hinge region domain of one heavy chain, to the sulphur atom of a cysteine residue in the hinge region domain of the other chain.

6. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 wherein the polymer is an optionally substituted straight or branched chain polymer selected from the group consisting of polyalkylene, polyalkenylene and polyoxyalkylene, or a branched or unbranched polysaccharide.

7. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 6 wherein the polymer is an optionally substituted straight or branched chain polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene glycol) or a derivative of poly(ethylene glycol).

8. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 7 wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of methoxy(polyethylene glycol) or a derivative of methoxy(polyethylene glycol).

9. (original) An antibody fragment according to Claim 8 wherein the polymer has a molecular weight in the range from about 25000Da to about 40000Da.

10. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 wherein each interchain bridge is the residue of a homo- or heterobifunctional cross-linking reagent.

11. (original) An antibody fragment according to Claim 10 wherein each bridge is an optionally substituted C_{4-20} alkylene chain optionally interrupted by one or more heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups.

12. (previously presented) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 which is covalently attached to one or more effector or reporter molecules.

13. (currently amended) An antibody fragment according to Claim 1 which is able to selectively bind to a cell surface or soluble antigen.

14. (original) An antibody fragment according to Claim 13 wherein the antigen is human tumour necrosis factor-α or a platelet derived growth factor or a receptor thereof.

15. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody fragment according to any of the preceding claims together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents or carriers.